



**FRITZ DEGUGLIELMO LLC**  
*CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
& BUSINESS ADVISORS*

November 16, 2023

To the Board of Directors of  
Valley Collaborative  
40 Linnell Circle  
Billerica, Massachusetts 01821

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Valley Collaborative for the year ended June 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 16, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

*Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Valley Collaborative are described in Note A to the financial statements. The Collaborative fully implemented the requirements of GASB Statement No. 96 during fiscal year 2023, which impacts recording and reporting of Collaborative subscription-based information technology agreements. We noted no transactions entered into by the Collaborative during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were:

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on guidelines established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for contracting purposes. Management's estimate of the post-employment health benefit obligation is based on an actuarial valuation, which included actuarial assumptions of returns on investments, inflation, and annual compensation increase rates. Management's estimate of pension on-behalf payments is based on audited plan financial statements issued by the retirement systems. Management's calculation of lease assets, liabilities, amortization and interest based on actual lease payments and a discount rate of the Collaborative's implicit borrowing rate. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear

*Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

*Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### *Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

### *Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated November 16, 2023.

### *Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to Valley Collaborative's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

### *Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as Valley Collaborative's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

### Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, OPEB Plan – Required Supplementary Information and pension schedules, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.


### *Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements*

The Collaborative is required to file a Uniform Financial Report (UFR) annually with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The UFR includes the audited financial statements. We were requested to assist in completing and reconciling the supplementary schedules to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements. We also reviewed the supplementary schedules after completion, which was part of our original engagement with the Collaborative.

### Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of Valley Collaborative and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

  
Fritz DeGuglielmo LLC